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Grant sought for WS Senior Center

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Ware Shoals has applied for a \$25,000 for upgrades at the local Senior Citizens Center.

The center, located next door to Ware Shoals United Methodist Church, serves as a meeting place for local residents who participate in the congregate meals program there Monday through Friday.

The Senior Citizens Permanent Improvement Program Grant, administered through the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging, must be used for construction, said Rusty Burns, the town's economic developer. If awarded, the money will be used to replace windows in the Senior Citizens Center and construct shelving and storage units, he said.

Covenant Billing Services has collected \$1,000 in insurance claims on behalf of the Ware Shoals Fire Department. Council voted last year to contract with the billing service to file claims on homeowners or vehicle insurance when the fire department responds to house calls, wrecks, fires, etc. Filing the claims will not effect the policy holder's premiums and will allow the fire department to recoup a portion of its expenses.

The \$1,000 collected represents claims on two calls, according to Mayor Rush. Three other claims are pending and if collected, could bring the total amount recouped to \$4,200.

Council voted to add a part-time clerical position in the Police Department. Sandra McAllister Owens, who has experience in law enforcement administration, was recommended by Chief Mickey Boland to fill the position which will be three to four hours a day, five days a week. Money for her salary will come from the Victims Assistance Fund.

Mrs. Owens will assist Donna Hodges, who took the full time cleri-

cal position after Lisa Phillips was promoted to full time municipal judge.

The town will apply for a S.C. Competitive Grant through the State Budget and Control Board to assist the Wastewater Treatment Department. The \$55,000 grant will be used to purchase equipment and repair the sewer line along the Saluda River near the Carnell Bridge.

Ware Shoals' police vehicles are now equipped with video cameras which will assist officers in monitoring traffic stops and documenting arrests. The town received grant funding to purchase the cameras.

Council gave first reading by title to an ordinance which will revise the town's current nuisance ordinance. The ordinance addresses a number of issues including the removal of dead trees and overgrowth.

Bill Thomason, town attorney, advised Council to thoroughly review the ordinance prior to the second reading at next month's Council meeting.

For safety reasons, broken windows at Katherine Hall will be boarded up, said Councilwoman Maxwell.

Mayor Rush asked if the windows could be replaced "for appearance sake," but was told the glass is an odd shape and would have to be specially cut. In addition, the wooden window frames are rotten. The work should be done within the next few days, said Heather Fields, the town's clerk/treasurer.

Interest in several parcels of town-owned property has prompted Council to place a temporary moratorium in place. Council will reassess the "master plan" for developing the Riegel Mill site and river property to determine how best to proceed.